**Taxation for Inequality Reduction: Call for Action to Seville FfD4**

**28 April 2025, 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM | Conference Room 1860, 18th floor, DC1 UNDP**

# Background and Rationale

With over half of global income held by just 10% of the population — with top 1% owning more wealth than 95% of world’s population — extreme inequality has become one of the defining crisis of our time. But inequality is not inevitable, and can be reversed by political decisions. Fiscal policy, particularly taxation, holds powerful potential to rebalance economies, restore the social contract, and unlock public financing for sustainable development.

Redistribution through progressive taxation is essential to promoting fairness and inclusivity in public finance. It ensures that revenue mobilization aligns with the principles of progressivity, contributes to inequality reduction, redistributes power and unlocks extreme wealth concentration and that revenues are channeled into tangible social and economic benefits—reinforcing public trust in institutions.

This session will explore how inequality reduction has to be the corner stone of the Fourth Financing for Development (FfD4) summit, with critical role to be played by progressive taxation and effective taxation of High Net Worth Individuals (HNWI) in particular in rebuilding the social contract. Drawing on lessons from international and global south leadership, the discussion will highlight how progressive tax systems can articulate inequality reduction, foster economic resilience, reduce disparities, and strengthen public confidence.

Building on recent momentum and growing global calls for taxation of HNWI both under international tax cooperation and at national or regional level, this side event will serve as a platform to deliver a unified political message: Seville FfD4 must produce a strong commitment to reduce inequality as the inevitable element in sustainable development objectives both within and between countries.

# Objectives

* Anchor the need to influence an FfD4 outcome objective around inequality at the center of the commitments
* Position progressive taxation as a cornerstone of the global agenda to reduce inequality and rebuild the social contract.
* Elevate political support for progressive taxation and international tax cooperation.
* Foster cross-regional dialogue among policymakers, experts, and civil society on how to align tax systems with inequality reduction, sustainability, and SDG financing goals.
* Mobilize momentum ahead of Seville FfD4 to secure concrete commitments on inequality reduction, using taxation as a tool for fairness, resilience, and inclusive development.

# Agenda – Moderated Panel Discussion

1. Mr. José Gilberto Scandiucci, *Minister-Counselor at the Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations*
2. Mr. Sergio Colina Martín, *Director General for Sustainable Development Policies at the Secretariat of State for International Cooperation of Spain*
3. Ms. Rispah Simiyu, *Commissioner for the Large and Medium Taxpayers Office at Kenya Revenue Authority*
4. Mr. Hernán Saenz, *Oxfam FFD Global Lead*
5. Mr. Quentin Parrinello, *Policy Director, EU-Tax Observatory*
6. Mr. Hector Ulloa, *Outreach Director, Skatteforsk*

Moderated by

Ms. Orria Goni, *Lead Advisor Public Finance for SDGs, Sustainable Finance Hub, UNDP*